

The Sports Page

If you are not interested in receiving The Sports Page in the future just drop me a reply and I'll take you off the emailing list. If you'd rather get it at a different address let me know. If you know another McCoy Softball player, past or present, who would like The Sports Page tell 'em to shoot me their email address.

Dirty Dozen

It was do or die. The **Dirty Dozen**, at 6-3, played the **Flying Elvises** at 8:30pm for untold riches and everlasting fame. (Or plastic trophies. Same thing.) **LFUMC** snuck up on us last week and got back into the race at 5-4. If we lost to the **Elvises** and **LFUMC** beat **Pizza Hut** at 9:30, we would lose First Place, but if we won our game all would be peaches and sunshine, no matter what **LFUMC** did afterwards. We had to have that **Elvises** game because, quite frankly, we'd have hurled if we'd have had to sit and root for **Pizza Hut**.

Before our game we saw **MPFBC** play the **Fat Boyz** in a deciding battle of 8-1 teams in the other division. (We'd lost to **MPFBC**, 11-10, and the **Fat Boyz**, 14-12, earlier in the season.) The **Fat Boyz** batted first and scored three. **MPFBC** came back with a 19 spot in the bottom of the first and they coasted to First Place. They just hit the ball. A lot!

We won our coin flip and elected to set up an initial defensive perimeter on the high ground. The Flying Elvises' opening salvo was sighted low and our ground forces were equal to every challenge and we led 0-0 in the first. The rain must have affected us as our powder was wet in the first, but we got a one-out double from Tim "Fire in the Hole" McCoy and we led 1-0 after one.

In the second, the Elvises were still sighted low and their murderous fire was absorbed by our cavalry, still 1-0. The camo clad warriors opened a breach with a no-out double from Norman "Schwartzkopf" Mapp and we led 3-0. A John "Liberty" Beal single, one out later ended the fusillade and we led 4-0 after two assaults.

In the third wave, the Elvises tried an airborne attack, but our anti-aircraft units were fully armed and firing at will and we held our perimeter without incident. We took two casualties early in the third wave, but we had the bases loaded, then Norman "Hulka" Mapp singled for two and "Sergeant" Rock McCoy doubled for one and we led 7-0 after three. We were beginning to pull away and we could almost taste victory.

The Flying Elvises' fourth sortie ended the same as the first three, with destruction and carnage and not so much as a dent in our battle lines. With two on and one wounded in the bottom of four, we loosed a barrage of three straight singles to breach their defense wide open, 11-0! One more single made it 12-0 before we pulled back our lines to consolidate our forces.

The Elvises arrayed a small expeditionary force against us in the fifth and they were able to breach us for the first time, 12-1. In the ensuing melee we sustained multiple incidents of friendly fire and there was no joy as the enemy closed to 12-4. We were unable to mount an offensive in the fifth with our feet shot off and the score held at 12-4.

The Elvises drew no blood in the sixth and in the bottom of six, Tim "Crater" McCoy fired an artillery round to the fence and surrounded the bases for two runs and a 14-4 lead. The Elvises were down to a last gasp in the seventh, but our countermeasures were up to every task and we won the engagement, 14-4!

Our defense was good when it had to be, though we had a few wrinkles. Our hitting has been better, (A lot better!) but we had some clutch hits and we won the day. Okay, night. Same thing. Norman "Wild Weasel" Mapp was 3-3 with four RBI and Dave "Harrier" Yekell was 2-2 with a walk and a rib. Tim "Fox Hole" McCoy was 3-4 with only five ribbies, Jared Self "directed munitions" was 3-4 with one and Robbie "Tomahawk" Crider was 3-4.

Way ta go, Grunts!! It was tough in the last half of the season, but we knuckled down when we had too.

Dirty Dozen Fall 2000 Season Summary

The Dirty Dozen had just finished the Summer Season by winning our last nine games to go 9-1 and take First Place in the final game of the season against the other 8-1 team. We took that momentum into Fall 2000 and kept on running.

We started the Fall against our old friends, **Pizza Hut**, and won 5-4 on a seventh inning comeback. The following week we beat **LFUMC** in a another comeback, 11-10. The **Flying Elvises** fell 15-11 and we were suddenly 3-0 in the division. That's the way to take charge early. You have to win those divisional games!

The next four games were against the other division and we beat the **Brewers** 18-2 to go 4-0. **CORP** was next, a team we had beaten 13-1 and 16-0. They learned how to hit, somewhere along the line, but we beat them 19-13. So, we were 5-0 and had won 14 games in a row when we met **MPFBC** (Mountain Park First Baptist Church) in an inter-divisional battle of 5-0 titans. We fell by one run, 11-10. We made a late rally, but we'd rolled those dice too many times and the string was broken. We played the **Fat Boyz** hard, but lost 14-12. Down early, late rally, same result as the **MPFBC** game.

We were suddenly 5-2, but we still led the division, because those two hot teams that beat us had been beating our whole division. Our next opponent was **Pizza Hut** and we knew we'd get well, even though they had destroyed **MPFBC** the week before. We got well. **Pizza Hut** crumpled, 18-10, under some furious **Dirty Dozen** hitting. They went to 4-4 and fell out of the race and took the loss badly, whining that our subs were ringers. They asked the Park Director if our guys were legal (She asked us, they were legal.) and they almost protested, but they wound up keeping their \$100 in their pockets and shutting up. Sort of...

We were 6-2 and facing **LFUMC** the next week. **Pizza Hut** was outta there at 4-4, because we'd beaten them twice and owned the tiebreaker. The **Flying Elvises** were gone, too, but **LFUMC**, at 4-4, was still in the running, because we'd only beaten them once, 11-10. We looked forward to clinching against **LFUMC**, because they were the ones that snuck up on us in the Spring, to give **Pizza Hut** (then **Glenn's BBQ**, the swine) First Place. Then, they did it to us again! Ptui! **LFUMC** beat us 12-7 and everything got all sticky.

So, the **Dirty Dozen** was sitting at 6-3 and **LFUMC** was 5-4 and **LFUMC** owned any tiebreaker against us by beating us by more runs than we beat them by. The **Dirty Dozen** has always been extremely tough with our backs against the wall, so we naturally put our backs against the wall just to make it tough. We walloped the **Flying Elvises**, 14-4, last night in the final game of Fall 2000 and won the division by a game at 7-3.

The **Dirty Dozen** played monster defense for the first seven games, then we got a little slack. Our bats were pretty weak most of the Fall, but out gloves came through in a big way. We had that 5-0 start and rode it all the way to First Place, with some clutch Softball in the final games. In the Summer we started with a loss, then finished strong to go 9-1. In the Fall, we started off 5-0 and brought in a 7-3. That's just two paths to First Place and I'm proud to wear my ugly camo shirt. Way ta go, Dozen!!

As a team, the Dirty Dozen batted 0.527, which is not so hot compared to many of our Men's Team Averages. We also had only five guys that reached title eligibility. That ain't so hot, either, but it wasn't entirely our fault. We had an MCL, a broken wrist and the Mixed Nuts that cost normally reliable players to miss a few. That would have left us with eight eligible with the usual suspects missing out.

Our Batting Champion was Jared Self with a 0.656 and Norman S. Mapp, jr. (who, incidently, is only playing on one team in Tundraball) finished with a 0.500.

Only one guy on the team qualified with an average above the team average... The Dozen regulars hit 0.500 on the season, in 270 at-bats, where the subs batted 0.617 in 81 at-bats. Of the eleven regulars, not counting title eligibility, we had only two men who hit above 0.600. Three more were in the 0.500's and THE OTHER SIX WERE UNDER 0.500! Six guys out of eleven finished under 0.500 swinging at slow pitched softballs! Two of those six were way under 0.400. Pitiful. Sparkling defense, good hitting subs and clutch hitting gave us First Place this time, y'all, but we can't always count on defense, as we proved the last few games of the Fall. We need to hit much better than that.

The Dirty Dozen drove in 129 runs, for an average of 11.7 per player. Jared Self was the RBI leader with 19 and Russell Ray finished second with 17. Tim McCoy was above the team average with 13.

We owe our subs a debt of gratitude for Fall 2000 and I'd like to say, "Thanks!" They drove out there, sometimes on late notice and played very well for us.

The **Dirty Dozen** only had one Blowout (a game decided by fifteen or more runs) and we won it 18-2 over the **Brewers**. Nail Biters (a game decided but two runs or less) were a different story. We played four and won two of them. We beat **Pizza Hut**, 5-4, and **LFUMC**, 11-10, to start the season, then in mid-season we lost to **MPFBC**, 11-10, and the **Fat Boyz**, 14-12. The Dozen was 6-3 as Home Team and 1-0 as Visitors in Fall 2000.

Hair raising seasons and photo finishes have been hallmarks of the Dirty Dozen and we just finished another one! It looked like we were going to clinch in seven games, but we made it much, much closer. I'd rather finish it quick and keep it nice and boring, but, I gotta say, I'm proud of the way the Dirty Dozen sticks together and I'd put us up against anybody over a ten game season. Nobody plays better than the Dirty Dozen when the chips are down. Good season, guys!

Oops!

In the 11/6/00 issue of The Sports Page, I reported that, "Slim' Tim McCoy was 2-3 with two RBI". Tim was actually 3-3 with two RBI. (and he ain't so slim either...)

Scouting Report

The next opponent for **The Jets** is **AMF** on 12/4/00 to begin the Winter 2000 Season. We know nothing about **AMF** so plan on a tough game. Remember we're playing one-pitch. If you get a ball, you walk. If you get a strike, your out. If you hit a foul, you get one more pitch. Hit those cages before December.

The **Dirty Dozen's** first Winter 2000 opponent is **Dave & Buster's** on 12/4/00. I looked at the standings out at Bethesda, Monday night and saw that **Dave & Buster's** played out there on some other night. They were in second place in their division at 4-5. You never know who they might have out there for Tundraball, so you can kinda throw their Fall record out the window. Hit them Cages if you ain't been hittin'. (And if you played on the Dirty Dozen in the Fall, chances are you haven't!) We need another strong start.

The first Winter 2000 opponent for **The Cowboys** is **Rehrig Pacific**. I don't know anything about them. (I can't even pronounce their name!) Remember we're playing one-pitch. If you get a ball, you walk. If you get a strike, your out. If you hit a foul, you get one more pitch. Hit those cages before December.

Upcoming Events

Tim "Sweet T" McCoy notches another one on 11/22/00.

Kristie "Kritter" Ahrenstedt blows out the candles on 11/22/00.

If you know of something that should be mentioned in the TSP as an Event, give me a holler. If you have a birthday, wedding announcement, birth of a baby, the day the UFO abducted you or some such,

concerning a McCoy Softball player, past or present, just let me know so I can mention it. An email is best.

Next Game Times

DZ = Dirty Dozen at Bethesda

CB = The Cowboys at George Pierce

JT = The Jets at Bethesda

MS = McCoy Softball

Saturday 12/2/00 at Three Dollar Café in Snellville
The Second Annual McCoy Softball Banquet
MS 3:00 - Back Room

Monday 12/4/00 at Bethesda - Winter
JT 7:45 - 8 vs. AMF
DZ 9:15 - 10 vs. Dave & Buster's

Thursday 12/7/00 at George Pierce - Winter
CB 7:45 - 2 vs. Rehrig Pacific

Monday 12/11/00 at Bethesda - Winter
DZ 7:00 - 10 vs. Luxomni
JT 8:30 - 8 vs. Double D

Thursday 12/14/00 at George Pierce - Winter
CB 9:15 - 2 vs. Autorama

The entire Fall schedule can be found at: <http://userwww.service.emory.edu/~dmcco01/Softball>

Freezing Rain Numbers

Bethesda (DZ & JT): (770) 822-8882

George Pierce (CB): (770) 822-8882

How to get us

"My only regret is that I have but one life to give for Softball."

If you need to ask about league fees or if you must miss a game, call Tim a few days before the game at (770) 978-3799 and leave a message if he's not around.

If you need Game Times or stats information call Rocky at (770) 465-0274 or just reply to The Sports Page via email.

As always...

McCoy Softball stats and other neat, peachy keen softball stuff can be found at:

<http://userwww.service.emory.edu/~dmcco01/Softball>